

Amendments to the Claims:

- 1-22 (canceled)
23. (new) A compound that is 2-(2-amino-1,6-dihydro-6-oxo-purin-9-yl)-methoxy-3-hydroxy-1-propanyl-L-valinate hydrochloride.
24. (new) An antiviral pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of Claim 23 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
25. (new) A method of treating an animal afflicted with a virus selected from herpes simplex virus, herpes types 1, 2 and 6, varicella Zoster, Eppstein-Barr virus, hepatitis B and cytomegalovirus, comprising administering a therapeutically acceptable amount of the compound of Claim 23 to the animal.
26. (new) The method of Claim 25 where the virus is cytomegalovirus.
27. (new) The method of Claim 26 where the compound is administered orally.
28. (new) The method of Claim 25 where the animal is a human.
29. (new) The compound of Claim 23 with a phase change at about 142 °C and a decomposition of 175 °C.